

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 15207 160954Z

15

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-05 AID-05 OPR-02 A-01

SY-05 SCCT-01 OC-05 CCO-00 DHA-02 IO-10 SCS-03 SCA-01

/103 W

----- 051559

O R 160918Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7707

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 15207

DELIVER TO NEA/ARN, DAY AT OPENING OF BUSINESS.

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, LE

SUBJ: 0900 LEBANON REPORT

1. CEASEFIRE APPEARS TO BE HOLDING LAST NIGHT RELATIVELY CALM WITH ONLY SPORADIC AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE AND ONLY OCCASIONAL MORTAR/ROCKETSROUNDS. BIG NEWS FOR THIS MISSION IS THAT INTERNAL SECURITY FORCES APPEAR TO HAVE OCCUPIED HOTEL AREA. THIS MEANS THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN ABOUT A WEEK WE ARE NOW USING THE FRONT ENTRANCE TO EMBASSY. THIS IS HIGH TIME IN THAT YESTERDAY TWO EMBASSY VEHICLES PARKED IN FRONT OF EMBASSY WERE HIT BY SNIPER FIRE.

2. JUMBLATT IN DAMASCUS APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN TOLD TO COOL IT. TO SAVE FACE HE MADE STRONG STATEMENT UPON HIS RETURN BUT ADMITTED THAT SOME REPEAT SOME SOCIAL PROGRESS WOULD SATISFY HIM AS OF THE MOMENT.

3. MASSACRES IN THE NORTH WERE NEARLY AS UGLY AS THOSE IN
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BEIRUT AND ZAHLE. ONE CHRISTIAN BIGWIG WAS WOUNDED

DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY, SO ZAGHORTIANS KIDNAPPED FIRST
FIVE MOSLEMS THEY COULD FIND AND MURDERED THEM. SPIRAL
APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN STOPPED, BUT BITTERNESS REMAINS.

4. DANES AND BELGIANS JOINED CANADIANS AND AUSSIES IN
ADVISING SUBJECTS TO LEAVE, POINTING OUT THAT AT SUBSEQUENT
DATE EMBASSY MAY NOT BE ABLE ASSIST IN GETTING THEM TO
AIRPORT.

5. THREE GERMAN TOURISTS KIDNAPPED IN THE AKKAR AND HELD FOR
RANSOM UNDERSTOOD TO BE 150,000 POUNDS. L'ORIENT LE JOUR
CARRIES PHOTOGRAPH OF JEWISH-AUSTRALIAN ORIGIN FAMILY
EVACUATED BY MOURABITOUN FROM SYNAGOGUE TO AUSTRALIAN
EMBASSY AT CARLTON HOTEL.

6 ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON'S MIDEAST TRIP CARRIED ON TV,
RADIO AND PRESS.
GODLEY

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NNN

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